

## GOVERNOR SWANN'S ENDORSEMENT.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, MARYLAND,

31 July, 1866.

The within is referred to the Attorney General, with request that he promptly take such steps or recommend such action as may carry out the requirements of the laws, and afford the amplest protection to the Freedmen.

The Governor will cordially co-operate in such action as will promptly meet the ends of justice, prevent the recurrence of similar acts of violence, and render the interposition of the military unnecessary.

[Signed]

THOMAS SWANN.

STATE OF MARYLAND, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,

*Annapolis, 22 Aug., 1866.*MAJOR GENERAL O. O. HOWARD, U. S. V., *Commissioner, &c.*

SIR,—I received your communication some time since, enclosing a copy of a letter from Major W. L. Van Derlip, Superintendent, &c., at Annapolis, transmitting a letter of Justice W. R. Thompson, who states that one Ed. Baldwin, Constable, refused to arrest upon his warrant, certain parties charged by Fred Sharpe, (colored) with assaulting him, and stating that Major Van Derlip requests that a military force be sent to make arrests, &c., &c.

A severe domestic affliction has prevented an earlier reply to this communication.

In your endorsement of this letter you say "Respectfully referred to His Excellency Governor Swann. I have had a conversation with General Grant with regard to this case, and we both agreed that if there is a possibility of justice being secured without military interference, that it is better that such interference should not take place. If the officials are so paralysed by a wrong public sentiment that they cannot exercise their trust and make requisition for aid, it will be afforded. Please, dear sir, see if something cannot be done to sustain the Magistrate."

Immediately on receipt of these papers, I referred the whole subject to the Attorney General of the State, himself